

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

in re the Application of

: Kyoko INAGAKI, et al.

Group Art Unit

: 1714

Application No.

: 10/539,478

Examiner

: Unassigned

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: 13241/7

MAIL STOP AMENDMENTS Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO/SB/08a FORM. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement and the enclosed PTO/SB/08a FORM, shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is prior art, or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). It is believed that no fees other than those indicated below are due, but authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees due, or to credit any overpayment, to deposit account 11-0600.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d), (b) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, (c) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, OR (d) before the mailing of a first office action after filing of a request for continued examination. No certification or fee is required.

Application No. 10/539,478 Docket No. 13241/7

The reference(s) was/were cited in a Supplementary Partial European Search Report received in a counterpart European Application No. 03 76 8189. A copy of the Search Report is included for the Examiner's information.

Respectfully submitted,

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